

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action¹, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4-9, 26, 32, 33, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,405,203 to Collart et al. ("*Collart*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,805,699 to Akiyama et al. ("*Akiyama*") and rejected claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Collart* in view of *Akiyama* and U.S. Patent No. 6,134,201 to Sako et al. ("*Sako*").

Applicants amend 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 26, 33, and 34, cancel claim 32, and add claim 36. Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 26, and 33-36 are now pending.

Applicants thank Examiner Le for the telephone interview on December 9, 2009. During the interview, the Final Office Action, the pending claims, the cited prior art, and proposed claim amendments were discussed. The Examiner stated that adding the limitation from claim 32 into the independent claims would allow the claims to overcome the cited prior art. The claim amendments filed herewith are essentially identical to the discussed claim amendments.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-9, 26, 32, 33, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Collart* and *Akiyama*. A *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

Amended claim 1 recites, for example, "recording means for recording . . . to each of the storage media access right information which denotes services available to each of the storage media identified by the identifiers together with the identifiers, . . . wherein the access right information comprises a download authorization

¹ The Final Office Action may contain a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

bit and an upload authorization bit.” Combinations of *Collart* and *Akiyama* to teach or suggest at least the claimed recording means.

As agreed to by the Examiner during the telephone interview, *Collart* and *Akiyama* do not teach or suggest, “access right information comprises a download authorization bit and an upload authorization bit,” as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, *Collart* and *Akiyama* fail to render the subject matter of claim 1 obvious. Independent claims 7, 8, and 26, though of different scope than claim 1, are allowable over *Collart* and *Akiyama* for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 2, 4-6, 9, and 33-35 depend from one of independent claims 1 and 8, and are thus also allowable over *Collart* and *Akiyama* for at least similar reasons as the independent claims. Claim 32 is cancelled.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Collart*, *Akiyama*, and *Sako*. A *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

Claims 34 depends from independent claim 1, and is thus also allowable over *Collart* and *Akiyama* for at least similar reasons as the independent claim. As agreed by the Examiner, *Sako* fails to cure the deficiencies of *Collart* and *Akiyama*. That is, *Sako* does not teach or suggest “access right information comprises a download authorization bit and an upload authorization bit,” as required by claim 34.

Accordingly, *Collart*, *Akiyama*, and *Sako* fail to render the subject matter of claim 34 obvious.

New claim 36 depends from independent claim 1, and is thus allowable over *Collart*, *Akiyama*, and *Sako* for at least the same reasons as the independent claim.


In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment After Final, reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. As discussed during the December 9, 2009, interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (202) 408-4320 to resolve any outstanding issues.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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